



November 21, 2007

Mr Vernon A Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D C 20423-0001

Re: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control –
EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)

VERIFIED STATEMENT
OF
Thomas F. DeGiulio
On behalf of
The Town of Munster

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

NOV 28 2007

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Public Record

I was appointed Town Manager in April 1984. Prior to this appointment, I served as Assistant Town Manager in Normal, Illinois and City Administrator in El Paso, Illinois. I began my career in local government in 1974. My educational background includes a B.S. in Economics/Political Science and an M.S. in Political Science with concentrations in public administration, research and statistics and public finance from Illinois State University.

I am writing to inform you that the Town of Munster Administrative Staff strongly supports CN's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern (EJ&E). We believe this transaction will be a benefit for the Town of Munster. The CN line in Munster currently carries 30-35 trains per day. The current level of congestion on this line into the Chicago market creates problems for motorists and emergency response operations. The CN line in Munster has two crossings that impact three major intersections. These crossings are at west 45th Avenue and White Oak Avenue (to the east) and the double-T offset intersection of Calumet Avenue and east/west 45th Avenue to the west. All of which can be blocked simultaneously due to train traffic congestion. The most frequent occurrence of congestion is during the morning and evening rush hours.

CN's acquisition of certain EJ&E assets is an important step toward improving that situation. The acquisition will more efficiently link CN's rail traffic coming in and out of Indiana. The proposed new efficiencies and operating improvements the acquisition will bring to CN's network will help with these congestion issues. We also understand that many of these upgrades to the system are among the goals of the CREATE project.



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around Chicago and that CN's acquisition and integration of the EJ&E will have the effect of advancing a number of CREATE's objectives more quickly.

The Town is working to complete a grade separation project at the Calumet Avenue/45th Street intersection(s). The proposed reduction in train traffic would also have a positive impact on the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District efforts to expand the South Shore Commuter Railroad from Chicago to Munster to Valparaiso, Indiana utilizing the CN right-of-way.

We urge the STB to categorize this acquisition as a minor transaction and approve it, so that the project can move forward and communities and businesses can begin realizing the benefits of this transaction as soon as possible.

I will present the matter to the Munster Town Council at its December 10th 2007 meeting to consider a Council Resolution supporting this acquisition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas F. DeGiulio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" being the most prominent.

Thomas F. DeGiulio
Town Manager


VERIFICATION

**STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF LAKE**

Thomas F DeGiulio, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that (he/she) has read the foregoing document, knows the facts asserted therein, and that the same are true as stated,


Thomas F DeGiulio
Town Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of November, 2007.


Notary Public

My Commission Expires

9-20-2014

